

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/630,981

Examiner

Rodney H. Bonck

Applicant(s)

MIURA, YOSHIHISA

Art Unit

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment received May 31, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7 and 9-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 December 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

The following action is in response to the amendment received May 31, 2005.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

In the specification, line 16 of page 3, "revers" has been changed to – reverse --.

The above change has been made to correct a minor typographical error or scanning error on page 3.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-7 and 9-17 are allowed. In accordance with MPEP 608.01(n)IV, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 12, 16, 9, 13, 14, 17, 7, 11, 15, 3, and 4 will be renumbered for printing as claims 1-16, respectively.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a one-way clutch as defined in claim 1 wherein the overlapped portion of the spring is positioned by one of the corrugated parts at the one end of the spring and an edge portion of the other end portion of the spring.

The art of record also fails to show or teach a one-way clutch as defined in claim 3 wherein, at the overlapped portion, an edge portion of the second end extends to at least a boundary between the corrugated part and the smooth part.

The closest art is considered to be the Miura et al. published application (US 2003/ 0006114 A1), which is now U.S. Patent 6,892,868. In Miura et al. (Fig. 7), the edge portion of the one end is spaced from the boundary between the corrugated part and the smooth part and does not serve to position the overlapped portion.

Since claim 8 has been canceled, the rejections of claim 8 under 35 USC 102(e) and obviousness-type double patenting are withdrawn.

The amendment to claim 6 overcomes the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Accordingly that rejection is withdrawn.

Applicant's amendment to pages 5 and 6 of the specification, along with the above examiner's amendment, overcomes the objection to the specification. Therefore, the objection is withdrawn. Regarding the term "revers" on page 3, applicant states that his copy has the word "reverse" rather than "revers" and that the Office must have a poor copy. It is still believed necessary to correct the Office copy, since the Office copy is used in printing the resulting patent. Therefore, the examiner has corrected the Office copy by the above examiner's amendment.

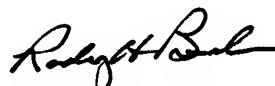
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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rodney H. Bonck whose telephone number is (571) 272-7089. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00AM - 3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (571) 272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Rodney H. Bonck
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3681

rhb
June 6, 2006